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In the Claims:

1.-11. (canceled)

12. (new) An inking unit for a printing unit of a rotary printing press, said inking unit being removably receivable in the printing unit and comprising side walls, a plurality of rolls arranged between said side walls, and a dedicated drive mounted on at least one of said side walls of said inking unit for driving said plurality of rolls.

13. (new) The inking unit of claim 12, further comprising a damping unit.

14. (new) The inking unit of claim 13, wherein said damping unit comprises damping rolls said dedicated drive is operatively arranged for driving said dampening rolls.

15. (new) The inking unit of claim 12, wherein said plurality of rolls comprise one of distributor rolls and applicator rolls.

16. (new) The inking unit of claim 12, further comprising guides and stops, said inking unit configured as a cassette that is insertable into and removable from the printing unit by said guides and positionable in the printing unit using said stops.

17. (new) The inking unit of claim 12, further comprising electrical interfaces for at least one of power, control, and data bus connections.

18. (new) The inking unit of claim 12, further comprising interfaces for at least one of pressure medium supply, ink supply, dampening solution supply, and temperature control connections.

19. (new) The inking unit of claim 12, further comprising at least one of a servo drive and a pressure medium operated operating cylinder.

20. (new) The inking unit of claim 12, wherein said inking unit is installable in and removable from the printing unit without tools.

21. (new) The inking unit of claim 12, wherein said inking unit is removable from the printing unit and operable in a further apparatus.

22. (new) The inking unit of claim 21, wherein said inking unit is operable in the further apparatus that has compatible mechanical, fluid and electrical connections.